

## **Town of Lincoln**

### **Budget Board Meeting**

**January 28, 2016**

#### **Present:**

**Carl Brunetti Bob Turner Rhonda Lacombe Dave Hartley Bill  
McManus**

**Paul Deutsch Felix Fernandes Bill DiBiasio Mike Babbitt Mike  
O'Connell**

#### **Absent:**

**Maria Marcello**

#### **Call to Order**

**The meeting began at 7:35 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**The minutes of January 7th were distributed for review.**

**Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, to accept the minutes.**

**The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.**

#### **Correspondence**

**The Superintendent and School Committee responded to the Budget Board's request for a 5-year staffing reduction plan by saying that they are unable to commit to reductions given their ethical obligation**

**to best provide for the schools.**

**The Budget Board noted that they believe that the schools should be able to look at the expenses and make reductions based on declining enrollment as well as being aware of and seeking new revenue opportunities.**

**In response to questions sent to the Town Administrator, he noted that:**

**The privatization of recycling is still possible but has not yet been presented to the Town Council.**

**There was no answer to the question regarding the Jergensen Property being split into 48 acres of open space and 2 house lots.**

**The funding for the Town's portion of the purchase came from Funds 11 and 50, and the appraised value came in at around \$1.1 million.**

### **Public Comment**

**There were no public comments or questions at the time.**

### **Business**

#### **FY 15 Audit**

**The draft of the audit was included in the Town Council Packet for consideration at their meeting.**

#### **FY2016 Municipal Budget**

**The status of the current Municipal Budget has not changed significantly since the last update.**

## **FY2016 Education Budget**

**Education Expenses are anticipated to fall closely within budget currently.**

## **Capital Improvement Project Updates**

**The High School Campus Improvement Study is in Stage 1 and square footage needed, which is based on anticipated enrollment, has not been agreed upon.**

**It was noted that the Rhode Island Department of Education will not reimburse the Town for any expenses that are in excess of what is calculated as necessary. They do have a formula that they use to come up with a 10 year student projection.**

**The Town can currently incur a cost of \$32 million without affecting the tax levy, but it was noted that it should not approach the bonding limit as that may change its bond ratings and interest.**

## **Proposed FY 2017 Education Budget**

**The Superintendent has proposed a 4.04% increase in the Education Budget, which includes Chromebooks for every student.**

**The Athletic Director would become a full-time position and may be considered Certified Staff and not Administration.**

**There is a projected 4% increase in the medical insurance rates, and the pension rates are decreasing.**

**The Department Heads were asked to zero base their budgets this year.**

**The Charter School Tuition charges per student have increased, so there was an anticipated increase recommended in the budget for that, and not for the number of students that will be attending.**

**Included in the Capital Improvement Recommendations were:**

**Windows and Security at all schools – a one-way film on exterior windows to also make them unable to be broken in.**

**Energy controls at the Middle School**

**A new boiler at Central for \$120,000 which is a \$50,000 as the boiler itself would be provided at no charge.**

**Comprehensive Energy Management at Lonsdale with Remote Access for \$160,000.**

**Also an upgrade to the Fire System at Lonsdale for \$34,874**

**\$14,500 for Tile and VCT at Saylesville (The moisture and humidity test at Saylesville reportedly have been done and the Budget Board would like copies of the findings.)**

**A Utility Truck for \$55,000**

**A survey was done to obtain accurate Student Enrollment as of January 15th.**

**Dave Hartley made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, that the next meeting of the Budget Board be held on February 11th so that the Town Administrator can present his recommended budgets if they are finished.**

**Public Comment**

**There were no public comments or questions at the time.**

## **Adjourn**

**Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Rhonda Lacombe, to adjourn the meeting.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.**